Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 through 36 were previously canceled.

Claims 37 through 70 are canceled.

Claim 71 (new): A method for signaling content quality of preexisting digital data between at least two digital devices having a digital source and a digital receiver, the preexisting digital data having a plurality of data records, each of the plurality of data records having a plurality of data fields, the method comprising the following steps:

analyzing quality of the content of preexisting digital data;

grading the results of the analysis without accessing the preexisting data, the grade indicative of the quality of the content of the preexisting digital data using at least one or more predefined sets of criteria; and,

marking the grading results in at least one form without changing and without accessing the preexisting data;

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wherein a first digital receiver dynamically accesses the mark of the preexisting

digital data without accessing the preexisting data to determine suitability for subsequent

use of the preexisting data.

Claim 72 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70

further comprising the step of:

remarking the grading results in at least one form without changing and without

accessing the preexisting data, the remark indicative of the quality of the content of the

preexisting digital data using at least one or more different predefined sets of criteria;

whereby another digital receiver can independently determine suitability from the

remark for another subsequent use of the preexisting digital data without accessing the

preexisting digital data.

Claim 73 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70

further comprising the steps of:

regrading the results of the analysis without accessing the preexisting data;

marking the regrading results in at least one form without changing and without

accessing the preexisting data, the mark of the regrading results indicative of the quality of

the content of the preexisting digital data using at least one or more different predefined

sets of criteria;

whereby another digital receiver can independently determine suitability from the mark of the regrading results for another subsequent use of the preexisting digital data without accessing the preexisting digital data.

Claim 74 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70 further comprising the step of:

associating a portion of a file name to the marking.

Claim 75 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70 wherein the quality of the content corresponds to a particular data field of the plurality of data fields.

Claim 76 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70 wherein the quality of the content corresponds to a particular record of the plurality of data records.

Claim 77 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70 wherein at least one of the one or more predefined sets of criteria is a predefined function.

Claim 78 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70 wherein at least one of the one or more predefined sets of criteria accesses an

independent database.

Claim 79 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70 wherein at least one of the one or more predefined sets of criteria for determining the quality of the content is an externally defined function.

Claim 80 (new):   The method for signaling content quality as recited in claim 70 wherein the mark is a numeric value, a color, or a Boolean.

Claim 81 (new):   A system for signaling content quality of preexisting digital data between at least two digital devices having a digital source and a digital receiver, the preexisting digital data having a plurality of data records, each of the plurality of data records having a plurality of data fields, the method comprising the following steps:

analysis means for analyzing quality of the content of preexisting digital data;

grading means for grading the results of the analysis without accessing the preexisting data, the grade indicative of the quality of the content of the preexisting digital data using at least one or more predefined sets of criteria; and,

marking means for marking the grading results in at least one form without changing and without accessing the preexisting data;

wherein a first digital receiver dynamically accesses the mark of the preexisting digital data without accessing the preexisting data to determine suitability for subsequent use of the preexisting data.

Claim 82 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80 further comprising:

remarking means for remarking the grading results in at least one form without changing and without accessing the preexisting data, the remark indicative of the quality of the content of the preexisting digital data using at least one or more different predefined sets of criteria;

whereby another digital receiver can independently determine suitability from the remark for another subsequent use of the preexisting digital data without accessing the preexisting digital data.

Claim 83 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80 further comprising:

regrading means for regrading the results of the analysis without accessing the preexisting data;

second marking means for marking the regrading results in at least one form without changing and without accessing the preexisting data, the second mark of the regrading results indicative of the quality of the content of the preexisting digital data using at least one or more different predefined sets of criteria;

whereby another digital receiver can independently determine suitability from the second mark of the regrading results for another subsequent use of the preexisting digital data without accessing the preexisting digital data.

Claim 84 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80

further comprising:

    associating means for associating a portion of a file name to the marking.

Claim 85 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80

wherein the quality of the content corresponds to a particular data field of the plurality of

data fields.

Claim 86 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80

wherein the quality of the content corresponds to a particular record of the plurality of

data records.

Claim 87 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80

wherein at least one of the one or more predefined sets of criteria is a predefined

function.

Claim 88 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80

wherein at least one of the one or more predefined sets of criteria accesses an

independent database.

Claim 89 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80

wherein at least one of the one or more predefined sets of criteria for determining the

quality of the content is an externally defined function.

Claim 90 (new):   The system for signaling content quality as recited in claim 80

wherein the mark is a numeric value, a color, or a Boolean.